



SAUGUS
Union School District
Excellence in Elementary Education

24930 Avenue Stanford, Santa Clarita, California 91355
Phone: 661-294-5300 / www.saugusd.org


September 17, 2015

Mr. Patrick Ogawa, Acting Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors
Kenneth Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple St., Room 383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

32 November 3, 2015


PATRICK OGAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Re: Saugus Union School District's Request for Consolidation to Even Year Elections

Dear Mr. Ogawa:

We, the Governing Board of the Saugus Union School District ("District"), submit this informational letter, in support of the submission of our Board Resolution to request our Governing Board elections be consolidated to even years.

About Us

As you may know, the District is located in Santa Clarita Valley in Northern Los Angeles County. Currently, there are approximately 10,100 students attending fifteen schools. We offer preschool programs on sixteen campuses and have approximately 530 preschoolers enrolled. The newest campus, Emblem Academy, was re-opened in the 2013-2014 school year with a focus on Ethics, Science, Technology, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, and Mathematics. Thirteen of our schools have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools, many of them more than once. In 2012 - 2013 one school received the Title I National Academic Achievement award. In addition, five schools have been recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools. Academic Performance Index ("API") scores have been consistently strong with all schools over the state goal of 800. In 2012-2013 our API was 876. All demographic areas of student performance continue to show improvement. In sum, our District is a caring community, committed to the education, success and support of our community.

Commitment to Students

Much like the County Board of Supervisors' commitment to serving the people of Los Angeles County, we, too, are committed to upholding our responsibility to educate the young minds residing in our corner of Los Angeles County and to embark on the best course of action and governance to serve our students' needs.

The District, in partnership with the home and community, is committed to excellence in elementary education and academic and personal success for every child. As such, the District and its Governing Board are strongly committed to the best interests of its students.

Background – Commitment to Increased Voter Participation

Less than three years ago, the District submitted a request to convert to even year elections. The District's intent, at that time, stemmed from a desire to increase voter participation and to limit its potential exposure to civil suits, pursuant to the California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA"). Since statewide general elections in California are only held in June and November of even years, and since voter participation is, generally, greater for statewide general elections than for special local elections including school board member elections, the District believed that rescheduling to even year elections may have enhanced voter participation and further increased the percentage of voters participating in the school Board election. Unfortunately, the District's request was denied at that time.

The District has remained undeterred in its plan to increase voter and community participation in its electoral processes. Over the past few years, the Board has continued to evaluate alternative solutions to increase voter turnout and to comply with the CVRA. Ultimately, on May 5, 2015, after significant planning and discussion, the District's Governing Board adopted a Resolution to initiate its transition to a by-trustee area election system. Based on this Board Resolution, by-trustee area elections would commence with the 2017 Board Election, the earliest permissible date communicated by the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization and the County Registrar's office based on the District's *current* election cycle schedule.

California Voting Rights Act Litigation

Unfortunately, on May 22, 2015, a California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA") lawsuit was served upon the District. A local voter sued the District under the CVRA, Elections Code sections 14025-14032, challenging the District's use of at-large voting, *Jim Soliz v. Saugus Union Elementary School District*, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC 580046.

The complaint specifically requested that the District transition away from its at-large election system. Moreover, despite the District's commencement of the transition to by-trustee areas, the complaint requested the court to issue a preliminary injunction to halt this November's Board election, if the election were to proceed under the at-large system. In order to settle the case and to conserve precious resources, the Board agreed to hold District elections after the completion of the transition to a by-trustee election system, and in even years only. The parties are also awaiting receipt of a signed stipulated judgment from the court approving this course of action, as appropriate to resolve the pending suit.

In compliance with this agreement between the parties, and the stipulated judgment, the District has taken steps to take this November's elections off calendar, and has continued its transition to a by-trustee area method of elections, in order to commence voting for Board members under the new method as soon as possible. A conversion to even year

elections enables the District to conduct its Governing Board elections in November 2016, the soonest option available, after it has finalized its transition to by-trustee areas.

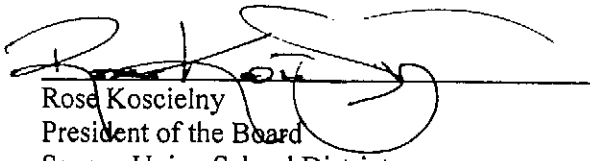
Commitment to Transparency and Community Outreach Efforts Moving Forwards

Compliance with the settlement and court judgment, will save the District, at minimum, hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees that would have been spent combatting an injunction in November 2015 and continuing to proceed in defense of the CVRA lawsuit. That capital, assuming the Board of Supervisors' approval of the District's request to consolidate, will, instead, be allocated and reserved for our students and bettering their educational opportunities here in Los Angeles County.

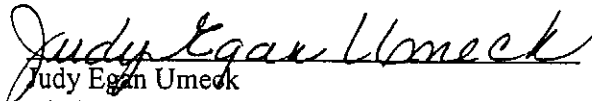
The District will continue to take this transition to a new election system very seriously. Throughout the process, the District has been, and continues to be, committed to transparency. If the conversion to even year elections commencing with the November 2016 elections is approved, the District can roll out a schedule of public meetings and hearings about the proposed transition to a new election system to, both, ensure compliance with the CVRA and to continue to educate and inform its residents.

We hope the District and the Board of Supervisors can partner in our mutual efforts and responsibilities to advance the educational needs of our children and increase community involvement in public service.

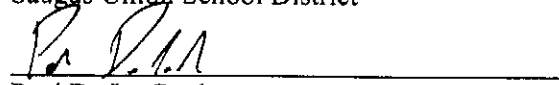
Sincerely,



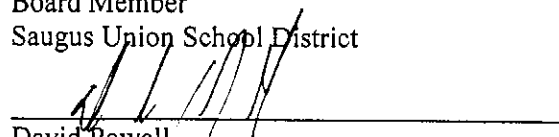
Rose Koscielny
President of the Board
Saugus Union School District



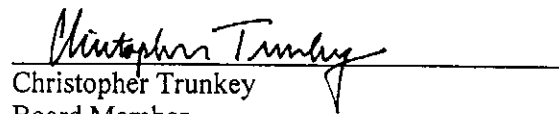
Judy Egan Umeck
Clerk of the Board
Saugus Union School District



Paul De La Cerda
Board Member
Saugus Union School District



David Powell
Board Member
Saugus Union School District



Christopher Trunkey
Board Member
Saugus Union School District

SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 2015-16 # 14

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT APPROVING THE RESCHEDULING OF GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS FROM ODD TO EVEN YEAR ELECTIONS COMMENCING WITH THE 2016 GOVERNING BOARD ELECTION

WHEREAS, the current date for election of Governing Board members ("Board") of the Saugus Union School District ("District") is every two (2) years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd years (e.g., November 2013) (Education Code section 5000 and Elections Code section 1302(a)); and

WHEREAS, statewide general elections are held in California only in June and November of even years (e.g., November 2010) (Elections Code section 1001); and

WHEREAS, generally voter participation is greater for statewide general elections than for special local elections including school board member elections; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to enhance voter participation and specifically to increase the percentage of voters participating in the school Board election; and.

WHEREAS, the Board believes that rescheduling to "even-year elections" may enhance voter participation and further increase the percentage of voters participating in the school Board election; and

WHEREAS, it is considered the view of the Board and pursuant to a settlement agreement Stipulation and Order, to be obtained by the parties, in *Jim Soliz v. Saugus Union Elementary School District* (Case No. BC580046), that starting with the 2016 Board elections, the public interest will be better served by election of its Board members pursuant to "even-year elections" in conjunction with the statewide general elections; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these facts, the Board desires to change the date of future Board member elections to be consolidated with the California statewide general election in order to increase and enhance voter participation; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that there is a cost savings to the District resulting from aligning the District's elections with the statewide general elections, this is not the reason for the Board's decision; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the terms of its members would be extended as a result of aligning the District's elections with the statewide general elections, this is not the reason for the Board's decision; and

WHEREAS, Elections Code section 1302(b) establishes a procedure whereby the Board may change the election date for its Board members by adopting a resolution seeking approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors of the affected county(ies) (Elections Code section 10404.5); and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board that following the withdrawal of the District's Order to call an Election for November 3, 2015, the District intends to convert from odd to even year elections pursuant to Elections Code section 10404.5 while transitioning to "by-trustee" area elections. At such time, said conversion shall have the effect of extending each Governing Board member's term by one (1) year.

WHEREAS, if the change in election date is approved, it is being requested that the new election date be moved from November of odd years to November of even years commencing in 2016 with board members whose terms would have expired in 2015 being extended to 2016 and Board members whose terms would have expired in 2017 being extended to 2018, as required by Elections Code section 10404.5(g) [refer to Exhibit A].

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the above recitals are true and correct; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Saugus Union School District Governing Board adopts this resolution to consolidate the election date for members of the Board with the state for the California general election in November in even years (Elections Code 1001) pursuant to Elections Code section 1302(b).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent will forward this resolution to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors explaining the rationale for the resolution and requesting formal approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting within 60 days after submission and after the resolution has been posted in accordance with law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent will notify Los Angeles County elections Office that the District is prepared to pay the expenses of mailing notice of approval of the change in election date by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors as required by Elections Code 10404.5(e).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the consolidation of election is approved by the Board of Supervisors, the date of the District's next election will be moved to November 2016 and each subsequent Board member election will be held two years thereafter in November of even years pursuant to a settlement agreement Stipulation and Order, to be obtained by the parties, in *Jim Soliz v. Saugus Union Elementary School District* (Case No. BC580046).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the consolidation of election is approved, the term of office of current Board members expiring in November 2015 will be extended to November 2016 and the term of Board members expiring in November 2017 will be extended to November 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District's superintendent or her designee is authorized to take such actions and execute such agreements and documentation necessary to effect the intent of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Saugus Union School District, Los Angeles County, California, on this 7th day of July, 2015 at a duly noticed meeting, by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. De La Cerda, ~~Mrs.~~ Koscielny, Dr. Powell, Mr. Trunkey and Mrs. Umeck

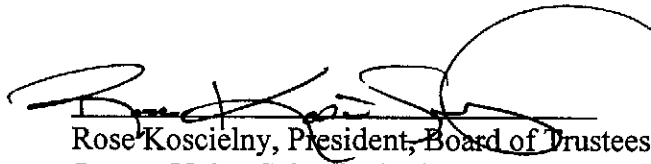
NOS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

I, Joan M. Lucid, Superintendent of the Saugus Union School District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the said Board of Trustees on the 7th day of July, 2015.

Dated: July 7, 2015


Rose Koscielny, President, Board of Trustees
Saugus Union School District
Los Angeles County, California

Certified a True Copy:


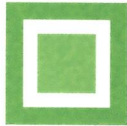

Judy Egan Umeck, Clerk, Board of Trustees
Saugus Union School District
Los Angeles County, California

Exhibit A

2000 10 122

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Current Election Year</u>	<u>New Election Year</u>
Rose Koscielny	2015	2016
David Powell	2015	2016
Christopher Trunkey (2 year appointment)	2015	2016
Judy Egan Umeck	2017	2018
Paul De La Cerda	2017	2018



Fagen Friedman & Fulfroft LLP

September 17, 2015

Dr. Arturo Delgado & Keith Crafton
Superintendent of Schools and
Director of Business Advisory Services
Los Angeles County Office of Education
9300 Imperial Highway
Downey, California 90242

Patrick Ogawa
Acting Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Agenda
500 W. Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dean C. Logan
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
Los Angeles County Registrar-
Recorder/County Clerk
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, California 90650

Re: Submission of Board Resolution for Consolidation to Even Year Elections

Dear County Officials:

Our office represents the Saugus Union School District ("District"). On behalf of the District, we hereby submit to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, with copies to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk and the Los Angeles County Office of Education, this correspondence and the enclosed a resolution, Resolution No. 2015-16 # 14, which will constitute the District's request to consolidate to even year elections for governing Board members, commencing in 2016.

This correspondence and the enclosed resolution will constitute the District's request to notice of the District's authority to cease conducting Board member elections on odd years as provided by the statute. Additionally, a corresponding resolution nullifying, withdrawing, and rendering ineffective the District's Order of Elections for the November 3, 2015 election has been previously submitted to the County Board of Education, and County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk. If approved, the District will commence board member elections on even years commencing in November 2016. The County presently conducts the District's at-large elections in November of odd-numbered years.

Dr. Arturo Delgado & Keith Crafton
Patrick Ogawa
Dean C. Logan
September 17, 2015
Page 2

Background – Increasing Voter Participation and Compliance with CVRA

Over the past few years, the District has been evaluating options to increase voter participation and to reduce potential exposure to civil suits, pursuant to the California Voting Rights Act (“CVRA”). As part of these efforts, approximately two and half years ago, the District submitted a prior request to convert to even year elections. Unfortunately, the District's request was denied at that time.

Nevertheless, the District remained undeterred in its plan to increase voter and community participation in its electoral processes and to ensure compliance with CVRA. Over the past few years, the District has been considering the following three options: (1) adopting a cumulative voting method of election; transitioning to by-trustee areas and (3) resubmitting another request to consolidate to even year elections. Ultimately, on May 5, 2015, after significant planning and discussion, and after receiving information that cumulative voting was not a viable option, the District's Governing Board adopted a Resolution to initiate its transition to a by-trustee area election system. Based on this Board Resolution, by-trustee area elections would commence with the 2017 Board Election, the earliest permissible date communicated by the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization and the County Registrar's office based on the District's *current* election cycle schedule.

California Voting Rights Act Litigation

Unfortunately, on May 22, 2015, a California Voting Rights Act ("CVRA") lawsuit was served upon the District, challenging the District's use of at-large voting, *Jim Soliz v. Saugus Union Elementary School District*, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC 580046. While the District was already transitioning to by-trustee areas, as contemplated by the Complaint, the Complaint further sought issuance of a preliminary injunction to preclude any governing Board election under the at-large system.

In order to avoid protracted litigation and to conserve precious District resources, the Board responsibly settled the matter by agreeing to hold District elections after the completion of the transition to a by-trustee election system, and in even years only. In support of the settlement, and in resolution of the civil case, the Court has executed a stipulated judgment approving this course of action, as appropriate to resolve the pending suit. Presently, in compliance with the settlement and the stipulated judgment, the District has withdrawn its order of election for the November 2015 election.

The District now hereby submits the instant request for consolidation to even year elections in further compliance with the settlement and the stipulated judgment. A conversion to even year

Dr. Arturo Delgado & Keith Crafton
Patrick Ogawa
Dean C. Logan
September 17, 2015
Page 3

elections enables the District to conduct its Governing Board elections in November 2016, the soonest option available, after it has finalized its transition to by-trustee areas.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, and pursuant to the enclosed resolution adopted by the Governing Board, and the stipulated judgment signed by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Gregory Keosian, the District respectfully requests that the Board of Supervisors approve the consolidations to even year elections, to commence with the November 2016 election.

Sincerely,



Milton E. Foster III

Enclosures: Board Resolution No. 2015-16 # 14 of Saugus Union School District;
Stipulation and Judgment, *Soliz v. Saugus Union School District*, Case
No. BC580046

SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 2015-16 # 14

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SAUGUS UNION
SCHOOL DISTRICT APPROVING THE RESCHEDULING OF GOVERNING BOARD
MEMBER ELECTIONS FROM ODD TO EVEN YEAR ELECTIONS COMMENCING
WITH THE 2016 GOVERNING BOARD ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the current date for election of Governing Board members ("Board") of the Saugus Union School District ("District") is every two (2) years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd years (e.g., November 2013) (Education Code section 5000 and Elections Code section 1302(a)); and

WHEREAS, statewide general elections are held in California only in June and November of even years (e.g., November 2010) (Elections Code section 1001); and

WHEREAS, generally voter participation is greater for statewide general elections than for special local elections including school board member elections; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to enhance voter participation and specifically to increase the percentage of voters participating in the school Board election; and.

WHEREAS, the Board believes that rescheduling to "even-year elections" may enhance voter participation and further increase the percentage of voters participating in the school Board election; and

WHEREAS, it is considered the view of the Board and pursuant to a settlement agreement Stipulation and Order, to be obtained by the parties, in *Jim Soliz v. Saugus Union Elementary School District* (Case No. BC580046), that starting with the 2016 Board elections, the public interest will be better served by election of its Board members pursuant to "even-year elections" in conjunction with the statewide general elections; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these facts, the Board desires to change the date of future Board member elections to be consolidated with the California statewide general election in order to increase and enhance voter participation; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that there is a cost savings to the District resulting from aligning the District's elections with the statewide general elections, this is not the reason for the Board's decision; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the terms of its members would be extended as a result of aligning the District's elections with the statewide general elections, this is not the reason for the Board's decision; and

WHEREAS, Elections Code section 1302(b) establishes a procedure whereby the Board may change the election date for its Board members by adopting a resolution seeking approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors of the affected county(ies) (Elections Code section 10404.5); and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board that following the withdrawal of the District's Order to call an Election for November 3, 2015, the District intends to convert from odd to even year elections pursuant to Elections Code section 10404.5 while transitioning to "by-trustee" area elections. At such time, said conversion shall have the effect of extending each Governing Board member's term by one (1) year.

WHEREAS, if the change in election date is approved, it is being requested that the new election date be moved from November of odd years to November of even years commencing in 2016 with board members whose terms would have expired in 2015 being extended to 2016 and Board members whose terms would have expired in 2017 being extended to 2018, as required by Elections Code section 10404.5(g) [refer to Exhibit A].

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the above recitals are true and correct; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Saugus Union School District Governing Board adopts this resolution to consolidate the election date for members of the Board with the state for the California general election in November in even years (Elections Code 1001) pursuant to Elections Code section 1302(b).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent will forward this resolution to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors explaining the rationale for the resolution and requesting formal approval of the change by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting within 60 days after submission and after the resolution has been posted in accordance with law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent will notify Los Angeles County elections Office that the District is prepared to pay the expenses of mailing notice of approval of the change in election date by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors as required by Elections Code 10404.5(e).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the consolidation of election is approved by the Board of Supervisors, the date of the District's next election will be moved to November 2016 and each subsequent Board member election will be held two years thereafter in November of even years pursuant to a settlement agreement Stipulation and Order, to be obtained by the parties, in *Jim Soliz v. Saugus Union Elementary School District* (Case No. BC580046).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the consolidation of election is approved, the term of office of current Board members expiring in November 2015 will be extended to November 2016 and the term of Board members expiring in November 2017 will be extended to November 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District's superintendent or her designee is authorized to take such actions and execute such agreements and documentation necessary to effect the intent of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Saugus Union School District, Los Angeles County, California, on this 7th day of July, 2015 at a duly noticed meeting, by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. De La Cerda, Mrs. Koscielny, Dr. Powell, Mr. Trunkey and Mrs. Umeck

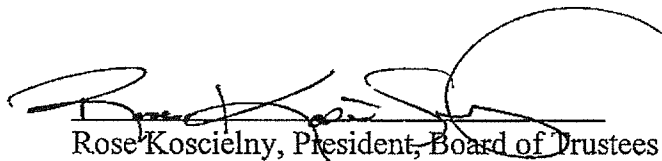
NOS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

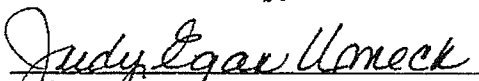
I, Joan M. Lucid, Superintendent of the Saugus Union School District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the said Board of Trustees on the 7th day of July, 2015.

Dated: July 7, 2015



Rose Koscielny, President, Board of Trustees
Saugus Union School District
Los Angeles County, California

Certified a True Copy:



Judy Egan Umeck, Clerk, Board of Trustees
Saugus Union School District
Los Angeles County, California

Exhibit A

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Current Election Year</u>	<u>New Election Year</u>
Rose Koscielny	2015	2016
David Powell	2015	2016
Christopher Trunkey (2 year appointment)	2015	2016
Judy Egan Umeck	2017	2018
Paul De La Cerda	2017	2018

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DATE: 09/09/15

DEPT. 61

HONORABLE GREGORY KEOSIAN

JUDGE

L. WOODS

DEPUTY CLERK

HONORABLE

JUDGE PRO TEM

ELECTRONIC RECORDING MONITOR

N. ALVARADO, C.A.

Deputy Sheriff

NONE

Reporter

1:30 pm

BC580046

Plaintiff

Counsel

JIM SOLIZ

NO APPEARANCES

VS

Defendant

SAUGUS UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
DISTRICT

Counsel

NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS:

COURT ORDER RE: STIPULATION AND JUDGMENT;

The court, upon reviewing the Stipulation and Proposed Judgment; which is signed and filed this date and incorporated herein by reference to the Court file.

The court to retain jurisdiction to interpret and enforce this judgment and the Settlement Agreement and to adjudicate any disputes regarding implementation or interpretation of the judgment.

Order to Show Cause re Settlement scheduled for 10/5/15 is advanced to this date and vacated.

A copy of this minute order, along with a conformed copy of the Stipulation and Judgment, is provided to the moving party, through their own attorney service, and is directed to give notice.

COPY

1 FAGEN FRIEDMAN & FULFROST, LLP
 Peter K. Fagen, SBN 143118
 2 pfagen@f3law.com
 Milton E. Foster III, SBN 250357
 3 mfoster@f3law.com
 6300 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700
 4 Los Angeles, California 90048
 Phone: 323-330-6300
 5 Fax: 323-330-6311

CONFORMED COPY
 ORIGINAL FILED
 Superior Court of California
 County of Los Angeles

SEP - 9 2015

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk
 By LaTrina Woods, Deputy

6 Attorneys for Saugus Union School District

7
 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 9 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

10 JIM SOLIZ,

11 Plaintiff,

12 vs.

13 SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT,
 14 Defendants.

CASE NO. BC580046

15 STIPULATION AND ~~PROPOSED~~
 16 JUDGMENT

17 Action Filed: April 28, 2015

18 The parties to this litigation, Plaintiff JIM SOLIZ ("Plaintiff") and Defendants SAUGUS
 19 UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT ("SUSD"), by and through their respective attorneys of record, set
 20 forth their stipulations and hereby request that a judgment be entered under the following terms
 21 and conditions:

22 RECITALS

23 All parties to this litigation desire to encourage full voter participation in elections of the
 24 Saugus Union School District ("SUSD" or "District" hereinafter) without regard to the racial or
 25 ethnic background of voters: and

26 On April 28, 2015, Plaintiff filed this lawsuit under the California Voting Rights Act,
 27 which provides that at-large elections may not be applied in a manner that impairs the ability of a
 28 protected class of voters to elect candidates of their choice or influence the outcome of election;

Y FAX

Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost, LLP
6300 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90048
Main: 323-330-6300 • Fax: 323-330-6311

1 Plaintiff's complaint seeks preliminary and permanent injunctive relief enjoining SUSD from
2 imposing or applying its current at-large method of election and for injunctive relief mandating
3 SUSD to implement district-based elections, amongst other remedies; and

4 On May 5, 2015, the District's Governing Board adopted Resolution No. 2015-15 # 58,
5 initiating its transition to a by-trustee area election system commencing with the 2017 Board
6 Election and stating the District's intention to seek a waiver of the election requirement from the
7 State Board of Education; and

8 The parties wish to finally settle and resolve the disputed claims and controversies between
9 them related to this litigation, in order to avoid further litigation, the uncertainties of litigation, and
10 the expenses and costs incident thereto; and

11 The parties to this litigation have worked diligently, with the intention of reaching a fair,
12 effective resolution of this litigation; and

13 As a result of significant negotiation and candid discussion, a resolution of this dispute has
14 been reached, which the parties to this litigation believe will benefit SUSD and the people residing
15 within the boundaries of SUSD.

16
17 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES TO THIS
18 LITIGATION AS FOLLOWS:

- 19 1. Plaintiff Jim Soliz is registered to vote, and resides within the boundaries of SUSD.
20 Plaintiff is a member of a "protected class" as that term is defined in California Elections
21 Code Section 14026.
- 22 2. Defendant is a political subdivision as that term is defined in California Elections Code
23 Section 14026. The governing body of Defendant is the Board of Trustees of SUSD. The
24 Board of Trustees of SUSD is presently elected by an "at large method of election" as that
25 term is defined in California Elections Code Section 14026.
- 26 3. SUSD will continue and complete its transition to "by-trustee area" elections including
27 seeking final approval from the Los Angeles County Committee on School District
28 Organization, in compliance with the California Voting Rights Act. SUSD has retained

1 Compass Demographics to prepare trustee-area map(s) and facilitate public participation in
2 the process of adopting trustee-area boundaries.

3 4. In addition, SUSD will hold its Governing board elections in even years only, in
4 consolidation with statewide general elections, commencing in November 2016. To
5 accomplish this task, SUSD will perform the following:

- 6 a. Pursuant to its authority under Education Code sections 35160 and 35160.1, SUSD
7 will adopt and submit a resolution withdrawing its Order of Elections for the next
8 Governing Board member election date, currently scheduled to occur on November
9 3, 2015; and
10 b. SUSD will adopt and submit to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, a
11 resolution pursuant to Education Code section 10404.5, requesting SUSD's
12 Governing Board elections be consolidated from odd-year to even-year elections,
13 commencing in November 2016 coinciding with the Statewide General election.

14 IT IS SO STIPULATED

15 PARTIES' SIGNATURES

16
17 Dated: ^{September} August 3, 2015

18 
19 JIM SOLIZ,
20 Plaintiff

21
22 Dated: August 17, 2015

23 SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT,
24 Defendant

25 
26 By: Dr. Joan Lucid,
27 Superintendent
28

Fagen Friedman & Furoosi, LLP

6300 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2000

Los Angeles, California 90048

TEL: 213 350 6000 • FAX: 213 350 6001

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM2 Dated: ^{September}~~August~~ 6, 2015

SHENKMAN & HUGHES

Kevin I. Shenkman

Mary R. Hughes

6 By: 

Attorneys for Plaintiff

JIM SOLIZ

8 Dated: August 18, 2015

FAGEN FRIEDMAN & FULFROST, LLP

Peter K. Fagen

Milton E. Foster

12 By: 

Attorneys for Defendant

SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fagen Friedman & Fulfroft, LLP

2100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 2000

Los Angeles, CA 90061

Tel: (213) 493-3333 • Fax: (213) 493-3331

[PROPOSED] JUDGMENT

1
2 **THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED**
3 that Defendant is permanently enjoined from imposing, applying, holding, tabulating,
4 and/or certifying any further at-large elections, and/or the results thereof, for any positions
5 on its Board of Trustees.

6 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED** that Defendant
7 shall complete transition to district based elections in compliance with the California
8 Voting Rights Act, by no later than November 30, 2015. Thereafter, Defendant will
9 request approval of its by-trustee area plan by the Los Angeles County Committee on
10 School District Organization.

11 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED** that all further
12 regular elections for the SUSD Board of Trustees shall be held in November of even years,
13 coinciding with the general statewide and/or national elections (Presidential or
14 Gubernatorial) with the first such election occurring in November 2016.

15 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED** that this Court
16 retains jurisdiction to interpret and enforce this judgment and the Settlement Agreement
17 and to adjudicate any disputes regarding implementation or interpretation of this order.

18
19 The Clerk is directed to enter this Judgment.

20
21 Dated: SEP - 9 2015

GREGORY KEOSIAN

22 Hon. Gregory Keosian
23 Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court
24
25
26

27 00175-00103/804028.2
28